

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. ~~[[A]]An isolated polypeptide, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide comprises a wild-type human constitutively encoding a non-constitutively active nuclear orphan receptor (non-CAR) (CAR) polypeptide sequence of GenBank Accession No. Z30425 comprising one or more mutations comprising a mutation in a native CAR sequence, wherein the one or more mutations render mutation renders the isolated polypeptide less constitutively active than the wild-type CAR polypeptide.~~

2. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the ~~mutation corresponds one or more mutations correspond to murine CAR (mCAR) position Thr176, mCAR position Leu352, mCAR position Leu353, human CAR (hCAR) position Leu342, and/or and~~ hCAR position Leu343 of GenBank Accession No. Z30425.

3-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1-claim 2, wherein the one mutation corresponds to hCAR position Leu342 ~~[[and]]or~~ hCAR position Leu343 of GenBank Accession No. Z30425.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim ~~[[2]]6~~, wherein the mutation is a Leu342 to Ala342 (L342A) mutation or a Leu343 to Ala343 (L343A) mutation.

9. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the isolated polypeptide further comprises one or more conservative amino acid substitutions which do not substantially decrease ~~after the non-constitutive-constitutive~~ activity of the polypeptide.

10. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide ~~confers~~ induces xenochemical metabolizing activity ~~[[to]]of~~ a xenochemical-metabolizing enzyme, and wherein the xenochemical metabolizing activity can be detected *in vitro*.

11. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 10, wherein expression of the xenochemical-metabolizing enzyme is regulated by an enhancer element.

12. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 10, wherein the xenochemical-metabolizing enzyme metabolizes a xenochemical selected from the group consisting of phenobarbital and 1,4-bis [2-(3,5-dichloropyridyloxy)] benzene (TCPOBOP).

13. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide ~~confers~~ induces steroid metabolizing activity ~~[[to]]of~~ a steroid-metabolizing enzyme, and wherein the steroid metabolizing activity can be detected *in vitro*.

14. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 13, wherein the steroid-metabolizing enzyme metabolizes a steroid selected from the group consisting of estrogen and estradiol.

15. (Currently amended) The isolated polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is at least 70% pure ~~purified~~.

16. (Currently amended) A kit comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 1, and a CAR-responsive steroid and/or a xenochemical.

17. (Currently amended) A composition comprising the isolated polypeptide of claim 1.

18-35. (Canceled)

36. (New) The composition of claim 17 comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

37. (New) An isolated polypeptide, wherein the amino acid sequence of the polypeptide comprises a wild-type human constitutively active nuclear orphan receptor (hCAR) polypeptide sequence of GenBank Accession No. Z30425 comprising one or more mutations corresponding to hCAR position Leu342 and/or Leu343, wherein the one or more mutations render the isolated polypeptide less constitutively active than the wild-type hCAR polypeptide.

38. (New) The isolated polypeptide of claim 37 comprising a Leu342 to Ala342 mutation and/or a Leu343 to Ala343 mutation.